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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent  
Case No.: 56372US010

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: **DEVINY, E. JOHN**  
Application No.: **10/081,266** ✓  
Filed: **February 21, 2002** ✓  
Title: **POLYMERIZABLE SYSTEM WITH A LONG WORK-LIFE** ✓

Group Art Unit: 1713  
Examiner: **Helen Lee Pezzuto**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION</u>	
To Fax No.: 703-872-9310	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:	
<i>October 27, 2003</i> Date	<i>Colene H. Blank</i> Signed by: Colene H. Blank

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 26, 2003. Claims 1-26 are pending. Claims 1-26 were restricted under 35 USC § 121 as follows:

- I. Claims 1-15 are said to be drawn to a blend of a polymerization system and a core-shell polymer and a reactive diluent, classified in Class 525, subclass various;
- II. Claims 16-26 are said to be drawn to a polymerizable system and a method of increasing the work-life of the system, classified in Class 526, subclass 319;

Election

In response, Applicants hereby elect Group I, without traverse.

The Patent Office further submits that the application contains claims directed to patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: the work life extending agent inclusive of the formulas set forth in claims 1, 16, 24 and that in claims 25 and 26 (sic). Further, the Patent Office submits that an election of the ultimate species as per  $Z^1$  and  $Z^2$  substituents on these formulas is also requested. The Patent Office states that claims 1, 16 and 24-26 are generic.

Applicants hereby select the following species for the purpose of searching: itaconic di(butyl) ester wherein in the formula of claim 1,  $R^{42}$  and  $R^{43}$  are both butyl and  $Z^1$  and  $Z^2$  are O

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and R<sup>40</sup> is vinyl. Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 are readable on the selected species.

**Conclusion**

Applicants have elected Group I and the species itaconic di(butyl) ester. Continued prosecution of this application is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number with questions that can be resolved with a simple teleconference.

October 27, 2003

Date

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

Respectfully submitted,

By: Colene H. Blank

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